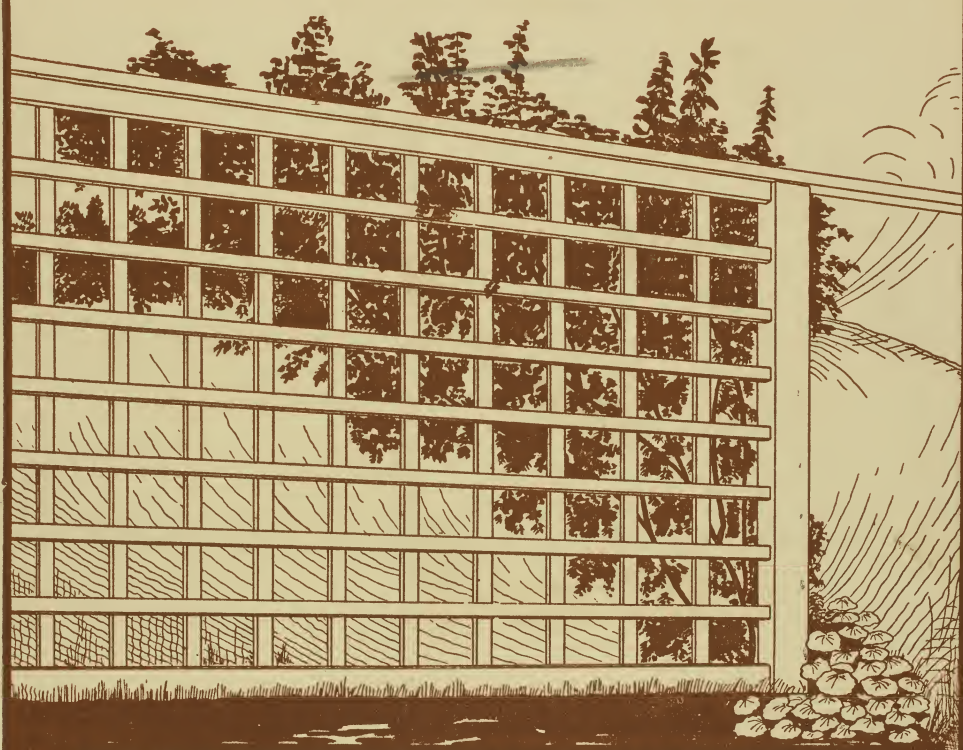


California Garden



IN THIS NUMBER

SUCCULENTS
SHOW AWARDS
LATHHOUSE
ROSES
SEEDS TO SOW

AUG. 1925

TEN CENTS

SWEET PEAS

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EARLY BULBS—FREESIAS both WHITE and all the MOST ATTRACTIVE COLORS.

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San Diego, Calif.

The California Garden

Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association
One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy

Vol. 17

POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA, AUG., 1925,

No. 2

Having "Luck" with Flowers and Babies

By L. A. Blochman.

The other day I met an esteemed lady friend of mine who was accompanied by three charming and healthful children, two girls and a boy. She stopped to converse and give me an opportunity to admire her delightful offspring. The conversation finally drifted to flowers. She would just love to have a fine garden but just had no luck with flowers. Her father's Aunt Gladys could just shove any old slip into the ground or scatter a few seeds anywhere and they just did beautifully for her, but as for herself all her efforts were failures.

I suggested that she seemed to have pretty good "luck" raising children and the look she gave me, made me wilt. The very idea of trusting such precious things as babies to chance. After questioning she admitted the babies had been reared with the utmost care. They had regular hours to be fed, their food was selected with care and carefully measured, neither an overdose nor a underdose. They had the proper amount of water at specified times, it was carefully seen to that they had the requisite amount of warmth, and that they were neither too warm nor too cold. If the food they were getting did not seem to agree with them it was changed until the proper diet was discovered. They received the right amount of air and sunlight. She had watched their growth scrupulously and if anything did not seem just right she studied until she found out the trouble.

She read all of the articles in the papers and magazines that had anything to do with that most important question. She compared notes with her lady friends on what they did and how they did it. She took advice from all the old grannies, and occasionally consulted a baby specialist. She even subscribed to a journal devoted to the subject most dear to her heart, "babies".

After questioning her and finding out what she had done on the child situation, I began to ask questions of how much she had studied the needs and requirements of her much beloved flowers. She admitted that she had

given them no thought or study whatsoever, that she just put any old plant in any empty spot in the garden irrespective of what their needs might be. The fact that there were different soils seemed like a revelation to her. That certain seeds and bulbs had their seasons and should be planted at certain times was news. The climate of California was so wonderful that flowers should or could be planted at any time, was her creed.

She belonged to no floral association, never consulted those who had "luck" with flowers. She "sprinkled" the garden when she happened to think about it, never pruned or disbudded. Cultivation was an unknown language. That flowers needed to be fed the same as animals never occurred to her. That they needed occasionally to be nursed along or staked was far from her imagination. She knew that flowers and plants got bugs, but what was she to do about it.

She never read any articles about flowers and never subscribed to a floral paper. After finding out all this the fact that she "had no luck with flowers" was very apparent. Then we ventured a little advice. We suggested that she study flowers, their natures, habits and needs just as carefully as she did those of her babies. Also that she subscribe to the California Garden and read it from cover to cover. We trust that she will and that she will have as much luck as Aunt Gladys.

Poetry But Fact Also

"Blossoms culled, more posies bloom,
Pansies plucked, more pansies grow.
Streams that feed insatiate seas,
Still gain volume as they flow.

"Souls who share their gifts with all,
Garner love to share again,
Radiating fragrance, like
Full grown roses after rain."

—Marie Tello Phillips.

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STRAY THOUGHTS

By P. D. Barnhart.

Yellow Roses: Notoriously weak in constitution, they must be worked on some vigorous growing species of variety, if they are to do their best in the open, even in this mild climate. Marshall Niel is one of them. When well grown it has no equal among the yellows. Worked on Banksia, and given the full strength of that species, it is a marvel of vigorous growth, of large buds, and fine full blown flowers, delightfully fragrant. And now is the time to do this work. As soon as the eyes are well established in the cane on which they are worked, cut the stock away, and start the baby on its way to development.

Other weak growing sorts may be treated the same way. Old Gold is one the late introductions, worthy a place in our gardens, but weak in growth.

Sesbania punicea: A shrub, native of Brazil, yet adapted to our climate. It belongs to the Locust tribe of plants, and when in full bloom, is a gorgeous sight, because of the bright red flowers. The seed pods are four angled, and if the seeds are sown in the open ground in April they will bloom the first season. Even the foliage is a delight to the eye; light green, slightly tinged with red. The shrub will stand almost as much drouth as a pepper tree. Daubentonia is another name for it.

Tigridia pavonia: Shell Flower. Last season I met with a fellow who had a lot of them, and I thought that he might divide up, but he was not of the same opinion. However, he was gracious enough to give me the seed of a few plants. These I planted the 22nd of February, and now I have a bed of a thousand seedlings, all in full bloom, and of many colors. I make mention of this, that other poverty stricken gardeners may easily stock up on this pretty bulbous flowering plant, if they can get seed. The flowers last but a day, but there is a new one every day to take its place during the summer months.

Morea robinsoniana, the prettiest of the three species of the tribe, which has been given a try out in this Southland. Treated as the two other species, it grows to top, and will not bloom. It must have absolutely perfect drainage, and kept on the "dry" side of cultivation. And then: a marvel of beauty. Flowers four inches in diameter, pearly white, with a distinct yellow blotch on the base of each segment. It is a native of Lord Howe's Island, where Kentia Palms grow wild.

NOW WILL YOU BE GOOD

Rosecroft, Point, Loma, Calif.

August, 1925.

To The Subscribers to California Garden
And anyone else that is interested.

It having come to my ears that quite erroneous rumors about the future of this magazine and my connection therewith are floating around, I am making this personal statement to clear the air before the winter rains:

There has never been any thought of stopping the issuance of California Garden, my connection with it is not to be disturbed except in so far that I am seeking help to gather material, read proof and make up dummy. I expect to write just as much as the Co-editor, who has been appointed for your protection from me, will consent to print.

California Garden today has a larger circulation than ever and wields a wider and greater influence, it is recognized as authoritative in its field by worthwhile folks from the Government at Washington to the day gardener in its own city. Its sixteen years of service have made it independent of any one personality.

For myself my interest in the magazine and the Floral Association is as deep seated as ever, but the turn of the commercial wheel leaves me where I must concentrate on making a living.

Let no one take my example as an excuse for slacking where the Floral Association and its magazine are concerned.

Sincerely,

ALFRED D. ROBINSON.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

SUCCULENTS No.2

By Harry Johnson.

Mesembryanthemum.

The figworts are familiar to most of us for they are often used to cover dry terrace banks or on the seashore to bind the shifting sands. One of the earliest plants that I remember is *M. cordifolius* a common species whose trailing stems and heart shaped leaves seemed to contrive an exuberant existence wherever fate forgot it.

The name *Mesembryanthemum* when translated from the Greek is not so terrible as you might suppose. It means simply, midday flower in reference to its habit of opening only when the sun is bright. The common name figwort is derived from the fruit which is eaten by the Africans and looks somewhat like a small fig.

The genus is a most extensive one containing some 300 species most of them native to South Africa though one or two are found in California and other dry regions. Our native species is commonly called iceplant and frequents the sea coast and alkali flats where it colors up at fruiting time to most gorgeous reds and purples.

In habit the plants are varied but two main types are easily recognized. One, nicely represented by the Tiger's Jaw (*M. tigrinum*), is almost stemless forming more or less compact clumps and with thick succulent leaves. The other has upright, decumbent or trailing stems with succulent three-angled, cylindrical or expanded leaves. The common *M. roseum* generally used on terraces is a good example.

M. agnium Haw.

Growing on the kopjes in South Africa among the rocks and gravel it so much resembles this uncommon species was first discovered and published in 1826. Haworth, to whom the plant owes its name, worked for many years on the taxonomy of succulents a genus, *Haworthia*, being named in his honor. The plant belongs to the first type being short of stem and forming clumps perhaps a foot in diameter. The leaves are borne in opposite pairs the younger ones pressed closely together. Before they separate one is slightly larger than the other though at maturity they are equal. Decidedly succulent they are about an inch and a half long by one-half wide tapering to a blunt point. They are quite thick at least a quarter inch and are broadly keeled like a boat below. Light silver-green in color and closely speckled with hundreds of tiny deeper green spots. Seldom more than four leaves are found on each rosette. The stem elongates slowly to allow for the expansion of the clump. The flowers I have not seen but judge them to be yellow like other members of the group.

M. aurantiacum Haw.

The brilliant orange-yellow flowers of this plant delight the eye on sunny days. It is one of the many gorgeously colored species having erect or decumbent stems. The plant grows to a foot high stiffly upright but with age becoming fully decumbent and spreading. The innumerable branchlets are thin and wrinkled, bearing at the tip from two to six leaves. These are less than an inch long, falcate, 3-angled, narrow above, deeply keeled below, the apex carried out to a short point. In color light green minutely speckled with deeper green. The flowers are borne singly, bright orange-yellow in color and an inch to an inch and a half in diameter. It is distinguished from a related species *M. aureum* by its smaller leaves and flowers and the arrangement of the petals in three obscure series rather than many.

In the wild state these decumbent species probably sprawl at the base of rocks or cling to the rocky walls of ravines or cliffs. In cultivation they are happy in any well-drained location. They are often used for parkings or edgings. Propagated easily by cuttings in the open.

NEWS OF OUR LA JOLLA FRIENDS

The La Jolla Floral Association has decided there will be no formal flower show under the auspices of the organization this year, according to announcement made this week. There will be several informal showings of flowers grown by the members during the next few weeks.

Next year, it is hoped, when the association has had more time to prepare for it, a regular floral show may be held in La Jolla.

New officers of this organization have been elected as follows:

President, Mrs. J. M. Lathrop; first vice-president, Mrs. Herbert Bisbee; second vice-president, Mrs. Robert Pilcher; secretary, Miss Ellen Mills; treasurer, Guy L. Fleming.

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE FLORAL ASSOCIATION

The following committees have been appointed by the president of the San Diego Floral Association for the ensuing term:

Program—Mr. and Mrs. John Bakkers, Mrs. John Burnham, Mrs. M. G. Strauss.

House—Mrs. Mary A. Greer, Mrs. E. E. White, Mrs. Alice Halliday.

Auditing—E. E. White.

Librarian—Mrs. Nicholson.

Further committees will be announced later.

FLEMING SUGGESTS A BIRTHDAY PRESENT

By Guy L. Fleming.
Custodian Torrey Pines Preserve.

Because of its physical geography, California is, botanically, one of the most remarkable of all the states of this great Union of commonwealths. Within its borders are representatives of nearly all of the plant families of the world. And it alone has the distinction of being the homeland of several now almost extinct species of plant life which were at one time very widely distributed.

So it is in keeping with the spirit of this remarkable state that, from this list of survivors of a past age, the honor of being California's birthday tree should fall upon the rarest of all pine trees.

In the spring of 1850, and but a few months before the new territory of California (only a short time ceded from Mexico) came into full statehood, the attention of Dr. C. C. Parry, botanist with the Mexican boundary survey was called to the singular, gnarled, maritime pines growing on the cliffs and in the rugged canyons opening toward the sea about 12 miles north of the little pueblo of San Diego. After visiting the grove and making a careful study of the trees, Dr. Parry declared the pines a new species, entirely different from any other known pines. By right of discovery he drew up a description of these unique trees and recommended that they be called *Pinus Torreyana*, in honor of Dr. John Torrey of Columbia University, New York, and one of the most eminent botanists of that time.

It is now proposed that as these rare trees were discovered in the year of the admission of this state into the Union, and, as no other known indigenous trees bear that distinction, the Torrey Pines be dedicated to the State of California as her birthday trees.

Let San Diego, from whose little colony this grand state took form, celebrate this diamond jubilee commemorating the 75th anniversary since California attained her title as a state by making the occasion a double ceremony and honoring also these unique survivors of an ancient forest that stand at her northern gateway, consecrating the Torrey Pines to the land of their ancestors.—From San Diego Union.

DEDICATION OF TORREY PINES AS CALIFORNIA'S BIRTHDAY TREES

A program under the auspices of the Park Board, the Local Parlor of the Native Sons of the Golden West, the National History Museum and the San Diego Floral Association, will be held at the Torrey Pines Lodge on Saturday, September 12th, beginning at one o'clock.

GOVERNMENT APPOINTS BULB INVESTIGATOR FOR CALIFORNIA

The bulb industry in California has grown during the last few years to large proportions. Even before the quarantine against the importation of European bulbs was announced by the Federal Horticultural Board, it was known that California was an especially favored state for the growing of certain types of bulbs. The California Department of Agriculture has been aiding the industry by protecting it against the introduction of bulb pests from other countries, and assisting the bulb growers in the control of pests which have already become established in the State, such as nematode and the bulb fly.

This morning Director G. H. Hecke, of the California Department of Agriculture, announced that United States Department of Agriculture has agreed to place a special investigator in California to study the bulb industry and its needs. Mr. George Doucette left Washington on August 10th, and will make his headquarters in Watsonville. His work will be in co-operation with the Bureau of Plant Quarantine and Pest Control of the California Department of Agriculture, and with the county horticultural commissioners.

OUR AUGUST MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the San Diego Floral Association for the month of August was not held, for the reason that all of the officers and many of the members were very busy with the arrangements for the Fall Flower Show which took place the end of the same week. It was deemed advisable to postpone this meeting. However, as a compensation for the disappointment caused to some of our friends, we have the pleasure of looking forward to the return of a number of our members from abroad, who are going to tell how they do things in Europe.

Several of our members have already set foot on American soil and we are looking forward to a happy reunion at an early date.

SEPTEMBER MEETING And Dahlia Reception.

In order to give the Dahlia enthusiasts a real chance to compare notes, there will be a Dahlia reception at the Floral Home, Balboa Park, the afternoon of September 15th. All interested are urged to bring **one bloom only** of each variety and if they chose one vase or basket arranged for decorative effect. The event will be in charge of the house committee and there will be no awards or prizes; the idea is entirely educational. Tea will be poured in the afternoon to encourage sociability. The regular meeting will be held in the evening at 7:30, addresses by the Chairman of the different sections in the show and brief talk on Dahlias by Alfred D. Robinson.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

The Aug. and Sept. Gardens

AUGUST GARDEN

By Miss Mary A. Matthews.

The recent heat wave and drouth so long continued has been somewhat of a setback in garden operation, however there is one consolation, the weeds do not grow so rapidly and it gives you more time for irrigation, so essential just now. It has long been demonstrated that in this section of the country you cannot have a good garden and stint on water.

The chief thing to be done now is keeping the various plants in your garden in order by pinching, staking and tying up all straggling branches. The constant effort of all flowering plants is to produce seeds, so if you remove all seed pods as they appear it will provide you with a much longer period of bloom. Seedlings of hardy plants sown last month should be coming on rapidly now; prick them off into boxes where they can be given the best of care.

Penstemon seeds should be sown now for next season's bloom. Those that we have already will need care in having all dead flower stalks cut off promptly, as they are much inclined to go to seed. Penstemons are one of our most reliable hardy perennials—they are very enduring after being once established. Come in a variety of colors, bloom at all seasons, of course this means the garden type. Penstemon Gloxinoides—their one drawback is that they do not furnish as good cut flowers as some other things. When ordering your seeds for fall planting do not forget the old (new) fashioned clove pinks. Seeds put in now will give plants that will bloom in the spring. To my mind they are the most charming of all border plants. They furnish a wealth of bloom, are very fragrant, and last several seasons. After they are through blooming just shear them closely and they will give the rest of the year a firm grey green border.

August is the month to put in sweet peas for winter blooming. Sweet peas have been so much improved and are so fine in the last few years that it is hard to decide on the kinds to plant. As you cannot have them all ask your seedsman for the best variety. I came across the following the other day and it is good advice:

"Sweet pea culture condensed. Tench

THE GARDEN

By Walter Birch.

At this season of the year remember that while the days are hot and dry the nights are gradually getting longer and cooler, so that although it is a trying time of year to plant seeds and set out plants, still if you keep a uniform moisture going and protect the plants from the sun for a few days after setting out, it is surprising what good results you can have.

In the vegetable garden September is a good month both for preparation and planting. Dig in a good dose of well rotted manure in all parts of the garden now occupied by growing things, and in a week or two rake down to a fine surface for your small seeds and sow such things as Cabbage, Carrots, Beets, Lettuce, Radish, Onion, seed or sets, Parsnips and Turnips. September is a good month to plant peas, and keep on planting them at intervals for some time to come, according to the location you have. There is no more delicious vegetable than green peas picked fresh from the garden, but it always "gives me a pain" when in an unsuspecting moment I order green peas at the restaurant and they give me the canned variety! Imagine canned peas being served as much or more than fresh peas in one of the greatest vegetable producing countries in the world.

If you have a bit of spare ground put in a few potatoes of the White Rose variety to give you new potatoes for Xmas and set out a few herb plants such as sage, mint and thyme, so as to have something for the cook to give a little real flavor to the dressings and sauces for the dinner table.

For the flower garden there are a number of early bulbs that should now go in the ground. The Freesias, both colored and white, are well worth while and should be planted in semi-shade six or eight inches apart and about three inches deep. There are an increasing number of colors in Freesias every year, and you can now have many pretty shades in yellows, pinks, lavenders and carmines. Ranunculus and Anemones are also ready for planting, both doing well here and making fine cut flowers. Plant two to three inches deep with claws down and about eight inches apart, be sure to soak bulbs several

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The California Garden

Editors

L. A. Blochman
Alfred D. Robinson

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EDITORIAL

Of course you are reading advertisements prophetic of the future of our fair city and remembering what one Shakespeare said long before any Realtor, "there is a tide in the affairs of men that taken at the flood leads on to fortune", perhaps you have even attended talks on the subject and may have spent a night camping on a Point Loma lot watching a little stake, but have you read about Florida's boom in the Saturday Evening Post? This article discloses that our rival across the country is stressing differences and playing on them in development. She seems to be saying "folks come to Florida looking for something else not the same old thing".

This is all preliminary to once more digging from its pigeon hole our ancient plea for a great lath garden and so anxious are we to have it that we would consent to its being called a Lath house *de Luxe* and surely that is the ultimate concession.

There is yet the opportunity to have this feature before any other place gets it. A quite small lath house is the goal of thousands of visitors every year, and this season a lady from Virginia puts in the register, "The finest thing I have seen in California."

The late Floral Show started up this subject afresh, the Civic Auditorium is a beautiful hall, but it has many limitations for the holding of such events, it is too small, is too high and too long and too narrow and its floor is too precious. The exhibit has to be assem-

bled too hurriedly and dismantled at the same breathless gait. Why not plan for a combined exhibition hall and lath house and conservatories.

Chicago has in connection with its Park Conservatories an exhibition hall in which the seasonal flowers are staged right through the year and we suspect other cities do likewise, in fact halls and shows are quite ordinary things and it is for that reason that we advocate a different proposition. We now realize that when this magazine first moted the idea of a giant lath house in connection with the Exposition in 1915, the time was not ripe, we knew so little about lath houses that whatever was done then was bound to be wrong and it is open to question whether we have learned enough since to make such an undertaking safe, and for that very reason if it be attempted the construction should be of the simplest and most inexpensive, however we now know that given a fairly large area the sides of a lath house need not be of lath but may be architecturally happy. There is a wonderful spot for this west of the Organ in Balboa Park, the block between the Floral Association Home and the New Mexico Building. It could be pergolaed all the way round and planted to wistaria and some Fall blooming vine, and the main structure could rise in different levels to the center with an almost temple like effect. We know this suggestion will produce howls of protest from the admirers of that green rolling patch with its Eucalyptus and that is what we want, for the objectors in fairness must bring to the front other locations and thus the interest gathers way. Another idea with intriguing feature is to make this lath house at the head of a canyon and so secure a natural amphitheatre effect. Unfortunately the view from the one we have in mind is dominated by the huge gas tanks; even this has a compensating side for our traveled citizens could watch the ten-minute blow off at night and compare it to Vesuvius. So far as we know no lath house has been attempted on a slope, though such condition presents obvious and promising possibilities, especially in water and fern effect, and in this particular we are woefully lacking. Of all the tree ferns we only have two and those in small numbers, though they are quite happy with us, and take away the Nephrolepis family and the Maiden-hairs and we are practically fernless. Perhaps a lot of our folks think that these with the bracken and gold and silver back or the whole list of ferns, but we have right by us now a catalogue which lists over two thousand, among them one hundred and twenty-seven maiden-hair. The big majority of these we cannot grow except with such special conditions that they are not an enjoyment but a care, but there are hundreds that we should have.

The idea that we have in mind in this lath

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

house is that it shall be different; it is not to challenge comparison with the conservatories of the world which practically advertise the several climates as so darned bad that these plants must be specially housed and put to bed with a hot water bottle, but on the contrary will say to the visitor, "here are your incubator babies growing out on our hillsides, this lath overhead is for you not for them, you know we lie about our climate but these plants tell a straight story." The Park attendants said during the late Flower Show there have never been so many strangers in the Park. Balboa Park is a Tremendous commercial asset, and we dare to present this idea now because with the realization of this must come the thought that flowers and trees help to sell San Diego and so far as we can see to do this is the sleeping and waking thought of its inhabitants.

FLORAL ASSOCIATION ENTERTAINS AT ROSECROFT LATHHOUSE

On the afternoon of Tuesday, August 4th, the members of the San Diego Floral Association and their friends enjoyed their annual treat, the visit to Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Robinson's lath house at "Rosecroft", Point Loma. This year, more than ever before, this marvellous collection of begonias was worth any effort on the part of flower-lovers to make the pilgrimage to what is probably the finest lath house in the world. Here may be seen, in all the glory that comes from perfect care and environment, practically all known types of begonias.

Huge specimens of the fibrous types, many twenty years old, growing twelve feet and more tall, with enormous pendulous clusters of bloom,—white, pink and red,—arch the path and hide the walls and roof of the house. The sunlight streaming through these masses of bloom and brilliantly translucent foliage give an effect I have never seen equalled in horticultural arrangement.

Rex begonias, banked about the large plants and, to exhibit better the finest specimens, placed alone on stands, add richness of color and velvety texture, in splendid contrast to the vivid high lights of the blooming varieties.

Tuberous varieties massed on benches, and hanging-basket types suspended from wires and chains, show a gorgeousness of color and a variety and elegance of form that are entirely beyond description. Without doubt begonias, perfectly grown, give a wider range of color, more warmth and brilliancy in the mass, greater delicacy in minute detail, and far greater variety in form and texture of flower and leaf, than any other of our garden families. Show me anywhere a collection of roses, dahlias, lilies, or what you will, that

so satisfies the eye which sees it as a whole, or that so repays careful examination of its detail beauties, as Mr. Robinson's truly marvellous collection of begonias, the fruit of many years' painstaking and loving care.

Between four and five hundred members were able to go to "Rosecroft" on Tuesday afternoon. What a pity that every member was not there! And how greater a pity that we have not in Balboa Park an even larger and finer lath house, with a public collection of begonias and shade-loving plants which would draw people to San Diego from all parts of the world.

W. S. MERRILL.

ALL THAT, AND MORE

We are strong for cows. We have observed the cow from many angles, and we have seen a lot of good points in her. But here is the way a city editor looks at the cow. Making this popular farm animal the subject of an editorial, the Baltimore Sun has this to say about Madam Cow:

"The cow is a female quadruped with an alto voice and a countenance in which there is no guile. She collaborates with the pump in the production of a liquid called milk, provides the filler for hash, and at last is skinned by those she has benefited, as mortals commonly are.

"The young cow is called a calf, and is used in the manufacture of chicken salad.

"The cow's tail is mounted aft and has a universal joint. It is used to disturb marauding flies, and the tassel on the end has unique educational value. Persons who milk cows and come often in contact with the tassel have vocabularies of peculiar and impressive force.

"The cow has two stomachs. The one on the ground floor is used as a warehouse and has no other function. When this one is filled the cow retires to a quiet place where her ill manners will occasion no comment and devotes herself to belching. The raw thus conveyed for the second time to the interior of her face is pulverized and delivered to the auxiliary stomach, where it is converted into cow.

"The cow has no upper plate. All of her teeth are parked in the lower part of her face. This arrangement was perfected by an efficiency expert to keep her from gumming things up. As a result she bites up and gums down.

"The male cow is called a bull and is lassoed along the Colorado, fought south of the Rio Grande and shot in the vicinity of the Potomac.

"A slice of cow is worth 8 cents in the cow, 14 cents in the hands of packers and \$2.40 in a restaurant that specializes in atmosphere."

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

THE FALL SHOW

By The Early Bird.

I have never seen what I could call a good writeup of a Flower Show, and I never expect to, nor do I hope to accomplish this impossible feat myself, though I am always trying, in fact I am about to try once again. Perhaps I should explain, that I mean a good report from the point of view of the average reader who did not attend the exhibition. If one attempts to select all the good things, a catalogue results, if only a few, they are sure to be the wrong ones. I have been reading a great many show items in European papers and if anything they are worse than ours because more technical. This is an apology, if you will so take it, for what follows.

This Nineteenth Fall Flower Show of The San Diego Floral Association was by no means the same old thing, and even had it been so that were no condemnation. I am willing to be courageous and state that three things contributed most to this differentiation, the Pergola in the center of the hall, the Begonia exhibit staged therein and the Asters. The Pergola idea could well be extended so that the public could walk through it as well as round it, but now it has been demonstrated as desirable its future development is perfectly safe with John Morley. The effect of the Pergola was to reduce the general flatness of the exhibition, a hard thing to do in so long and high building. And here it might be in order to mention that it is a common practice in European Flower Shows to put in a cloth ceiling with a billowy effect. This may also be to modify the light through glass roofs but it does eliminate unnecessary height. Then the Pergola afforded the Begonias their first chance to show to advantage, they need framing and when, as previously, placed on tables or in groups without this frame they have been wasted or worse. The Begonia exhibit this year was far and away the best yet and it was merely the natural result of years of lonely effort that made the public inclined to consider it is still one entry, whereas half of it represented newer lath houses. The Chairman of this division made a wonderful showing in Rexes in perfect condition.

The earlier date gave the Asters a chance and they were quite a feature for the first time in my memory.

I am quite unable to discuss the Dahlias, there were not so many as last year, but certainly a tremendous range of color and form. Personally I feel that we have not yet solved the problem of staging this flower and I understand that some shows are going back to

a display of just blooms flat on moss. Our classification has grown too large for a mixed show and we may have to handle the dahlia like the roses with a color specification.

Of all our Fall flowers the Zinnias are the most practical, they keep on the bush or cut, they are easy to grow and now they come in splendid colors. Of course they lack in grace they are a stiffnecked generation that know not a curve, but Oh how they brighten up things. The showing this year was better than last.

What splendid African Marigolds were on exhibition, real gold in big balls, great nuggets drawn from the earth by the sun in its own image.

Balboa Park brought lilies and fern, and Caladiums, the latter in mixtures like chintzes, red, pink, white, green and they made two cool circles on the floor, a comforting thing for the eye surfeited with the riot of color on the benches. Always the Park offers something a bit different and individual. From Superintendent down, the Park force hovers over these shows even as a hen broods her chicks and this makes them possible. If a space remains unfilled or an exhibitor fails to exhibit the Park steps in and with its kindly wing covers the hole and the public never knows. The Park gets no cups, only an occasional ribbon, but it has the fervent prayers of the workers in the Floral Association.

At their posts were the Faithful and all the machinery ran like clock work, only better, for it could speed up when necessary. Of course there were criticisms, some good, some bad and others merely stupid but all showing interest and that is the thing that turns the motor.

The public came in goodly numbers, by no means as numerous as should be but pretty fair, and there were a large number of new comers which form the best prospects, for a good many of the old citizens have been given up by the Floral Association as hopeless and flowerless.

Write it down in your book, as it has been recorded in a more permanent manner elsewhere, that this year's Fall Show was a success and as for the prizes and those who won them are they not recorded upon another page.

**Don't forget the Dahlia
Reception Sept. 15th. at the
Floral Association Home**

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

AWARDS OF THE 19TH ANNUAL
FALL SHOW

SECTION A
(Professionals)

Best collection of decorative plants arranged for effect in space of about 10x10 feet—Rosecourt Floral Company. A. L. Gottesburen, special award of merit.

Best display of potted or boxed ferns—East San Diego Nursery.

Best specimen fern, any variety—East San Diego Nursery.

Best hanging basket, other than ferns—East San Diego Nursery.

Best display begonias, cut or potted—Rosecroft Begonia Gardens.

Best vase, basket or other arrangement of zinnias—Floral Terrace Nursery, first and second.

Best florist's basket—Rosecourt Floral Company.

Best civic or service display—U. S. Naval Training Station.

SECTION B

Best display of zinnias—Miss Lyner, first; Thomas Getz, second; Mrs. Bakkers, third.

Best six blooms red zinnias—Mr. and Mrs. Thelen.

Best six blooms red-shaded zinnias—Mrs. Nellie Sypher.

Best six blooms pink zinnias—William Usino, first; Mrs. E. G. Hertzing, second.

Best six blooms pink-shaded zinnias—Mrs. Stanley Turner, first; Mrs. Lawton, Chula Vista, second; C. Zirrit, third.

Best six blooms yellow zinnias—William Schultz, Lemon Grove, first; Mrs. Lawton, Chula Vista, second.

Best six blooms yellow-shaded zinnias—William Schultz, Lemon Grove.

Best six blooms any other color zinnias—Mrs. Lawton, Chula Vista, first; E. C. Wills, second.

Best vase, basket or other arrangement of zinnias—Miss Coulter, first; Mrs. George Marston, second; Miss Cowden, third.

Zinnia sweepstakes—Mrs. Lawton.

Best display of asters, American Beauty type—Mrs. Niel Taylor, first; William Schultz, second.

Best display of asters, Crego type—C. A. Potter, first; Mrs. George Marston, second.

Special novelty—Eva Gray, Bird Rock.

Best display of asters, Victoria type—Dr. Anita Muhl, first and second.

Aster sweepstakes—Dr. Anita Muhl.

Best display of marigolds, French—Mrs. Jennie Owens, first; Miss Hortense Coulter, second.

Best display of marigolds, African—Mrs. Jones, first; Mrs. E. W. Delacour, second; W. C. Gerichten, third.

Best display of cannas—Mrs. Jennie Owens.

Best display of annuals—W. C. Gerichten, first; Naval Air Station, second.

Best display of bulbous flowers—Mrs. C. V. Covert, first; Ralph Cushman, second.

Best display of perennials—Naval Air Station.

Best basket of annuals or perennials—Mrs. K. L. Hathaway, first; Mrs. Doyle, second.

Best new flower or plant not before exhibited—Mr. and Mrs. Thelen.

SECTION C
(Amateurs)

Best display of cut or potted fibrous begonias—Mrs. John Burnham.

Best display of tuberous begonias—Mrs. M. C. Harding.

Best one specimen fibrous begonia—Mrs. J. P. Carlson.

Best one specimen tuberous begonia—Mrs. E. Strahlman, first; Mrs. M. C. Harding, second.

Best specimen rex, San Diego county seedling, cross or hybrid—Mrs. John Burnham.

Best specimen maidenhair fern—Mrs. E. L. Dornberger.

Best specimen fern, other than maidenhair—Mrs. John Burnham.

Best collection ferns—Mrs. Nellie Haley.

Best fern hanging basket—Col. Miller, Marine Base.

Best flowering plant for interior decoration—Miss Mabel Harding.

Best flowering vine—Mrs. T. B. Wright, first; Mrs. Nellie Haley, second.

Best collection cut sprays, flowering trees or shrubs—Mrs. Bakkers, first; Mrs. M. A. Greer, second.

Best collection berried shrubs—Naval Air Station.

Best exhibit bamboo and grasses—Mrs. M. W. Harding.

Best garden display from lot not over 50 feet—Mr. and Mrs. Heermance.

Best dining table decoration with appointments—Mrs. William Simison, first; Mrs. Charlotte Robinson, second; Mrs. B. J. O'Neil, third.

Best dining table decoration without appointments—E. B. McKim, first; Mrs. G. M. Alexander, second; Rainford Flower Shop, special.

SECTION D—DAHLIAS
(Professionals)

Best general display arranged for effect—H. E. Howell, first; Ralph Cushman, second.

Best 12 blooms, one variety, shown in one receptacle—Rosecroft Begonia Gardens, first; Ralph Cushman, second.

Best 25 blooms, one variety—Ralph Cushman, first; H. E. Howell, second.

Best collection of California dahlias, 12

blooms, 12 varieties—Ralph Cushman.

Most meritorious exhibit—Ralph Cushman.

SECTION D

(Open to All)

Best established 3-year-old seedling, with stem—A. B. Partridge, first; W. B. Gutteron, second.

Best collection of unregistered seedlings—H. E. Howell.

Best 1924 seedling with stem—Rosecroft Begonia Gardens.

Best 1925 seedling, with stem—C. J. Othick.

Largest dahlia, with stem, shown in show—Ralph Cushman.

Largest Siskiyou or Ambassador shown in show—Thomas B. Getz.

Best basket of one or more Bessie Boston varieties—Ralph Cushman.

Smallest perfect pompon dahlia—Alfred Partridge.

Best basket of pink dahlias—Ralph Cushman, first; Mrs. F. M. White, second.

Best basket of red dahlias—Ralph Cushman.

Best basket of autumn-colored dahlias—Ralph Cushman, first; E. E. Dryden, second.

Most artistic basket of dahlias—(No first award); Mrs. F. M. White, second; Ralph Cushman, third.

Best basket of Pompon dahlias—H. E. Howell.

Best 6 blooms, 6 varieties, California introductions—W. L. Gottensburn.

SECTION D

(Amateurs)

Best collection of dahlias, excluding Pompons, one of each of not more than 15 varieties—Mrs. K. L. Hathaway.

Best collection of decorative dahlias, one bloom each of three varieties—Mrs. K. L. Hathaway.

Best collection of peony dahlias—one bloom each of three varieties—Mrs. W. H. Hutchins.

Best collection of Pompon dahlias, two blooms each of three varieties, no buds—W. H. Hutchins, first; William Schultz, Lemon Grove, second.

SECTION D

(Novice Class)

Best collection of dahlias, excluding Pompons, one bloom each of not more than 12 varieties—A. Adderley, first; Collins Gilmore, second.

Best cactus dahlia—Mrs. A. D. Simpson.

Best decorative dahlia—Miller Bushway.

Best peony dahlia—A. Adderley.

Best show dahlia—Edith Paul, Lemon Grove.

Best collection of Pompon dahlias, no buds—A. Adderley.

The following won the trophies:

Section A—Professionals.

Class 1—Best collection of decorative plants, won by Rosecourt Floral Co.

Class 11—Best display of begonia, cut or potted, won by Rosecroft Begonia Gardens.

Class 13—Best florists basket, won by Rosecourt Floral Co.

Section B.—Amateurs.

Class 14—Best civic or service display, Naval Training Station.

Class 15—Best display of zinnias, won by Miss Lyner.

Zinnia Sweepstakes, won by Mrs. Lawton.

Aster Sweepstakes, won by Dr. Anita Muhl.

Class 34—Best display of annuals, won by W. C. Gerichten.

Class 36—Best display of perennials, won by Naval Air Station.

Class 37—Best basket of annuals or perennials, won by Mrs. K. L. Hathaway.

Section C—Amateurs.

Class 39—Best display of cut or potted begonias, won by Mrs. John Burnham.

Class 59—Best garden display from lot not over 50 feet, won by Mr. and Mrs. John Heermance.

Class 60—Best dining table with appointments, won by Mrs. William Simison.

Class 61—Best dining table without appointments, won by Miss E. B. McKim.

Section D—Dahlias, Professionals:

Class 62—Best general display arranged for effect, won by H. E. Howell.

Class 72—Largest Siskiyou or Ambassador, won by Thomas B. Getz.

Class 73—Best basket of one or more Bessie Boston varieties, won by Ralph Cushman.

Class 74—One best bloom exhibited at show, won by H. E. Howell.

Class 83—Best keeping six dahlia blooms, won by Mrs. H. Peters.

Class 84—Best six blooms, six varieties, California introductions, won by A. L. Gottensburn.

Class 97—Best collection of decorative dahlias, one bloom of three varieties, won by Mrs. K. L. Hathaway.

Class 98—Best collection peony dahlias, won by Mrs. W. H. Hutchings.

Class 103—Best collection of pompon dahlias, three varieties, won by W. H. Hutchings.

Class 104—Best collection of dahlias, excluding pompons, won by A. Adderley.

Class 105—Best cactus dahlia, won by Mrs. A. D. Simpson.

Class 106—Best decorative dahlia, won by Miller Bushway.

Class 107—Best peony dahlia, won by A. Adderley.

Class 108—Best show dahlia, won by Miss Edith Paul.

Class 109—Best collection of pompon dahlias, won by A. Adderley.

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BEGONIA CHAT

THE LATH HOUSE

By Alfred D. Robinson.

I am intending to take up complaints in this number because it gives me an opportunity to grouch a few and that is always the prerogative of a policeman.

Several folks have had trouble with Begonias wilting and dying, in many cases large specimens in vigorous growth when planted. In one such case it was found that the planting was done in ground recently made up. The fault here was too great haste in planting, no newly filled space is fit to be planted till it has had upon it a season's rain. Where grading of roads is done it is usually a season before wild growth starts. The philosophy of the thing is that in these fills are air spaces, and no amount of tamping will remove them all, and further if such fills are thoroughly wetted an immediate decay of the vegetable content begins reducing the bulk and thus forming cavities. In one lath house where the whole floor was soiled up with rock at bottom for drainage then a layer of moss with a compost above, the settling and decay caused regular caves into which one could thrust a hand to the elbow. It is hardly to be expected that people should wait a season before planting, but such would be the sane and safe method and while waiting hardy annuals and such could be employed to fill the vacancy. This planting of some preliminary crop has another advantage and that is a using of the rank plant foods which might give more delicate growths indigestion if nothing worse. We always make up our composts very rich, because to get the humus content a big percentage of fertilizer is indicated, it is really too rich for Begonias but it would be just right for a crop of pansies which cannot be overfertilized. When this first crop is taken off the bed should be compacted all over, with a broomhandle for instance, and then a foot of the top loosened. Another cause of failure in planting Begonias is putting them too deep, they are largely surface feeders and it is better to have the ground round them mounded up rather than basined. Still a third poor practice is overwatering. When a Begonia is first moved the ground should be thoroughly soaked but after that has been done it is better to allow quite an interval before repeating, say till the ground is crumbly rather than wet, and if the plant shows signs of wilting give it an overhead

shower bath. In any case it is taking chances to move large specimens after the growth has become woody. It must be remembered that Begonias are not as long lived as oaks and even the tree kinds must be renewed at comparatively short intervals from the ground up by new shoots. It would be safe not to buy any large specimens that had not a new shoot in sight. A well grown three year old seedling is the ideal plant, it can be six to eight feet tall and will be in a year larger than an older plant that had a start of it and was from a cutting. More Begonias must be raised from seed, the tuberous men know that this is vital to maintain constitution and though this class is easily grown from cuttings taken from the first sprouts from the tuber like dahlias, it is only practiced to preserve the most meritorious kinds. Several charming Begonias are lacking in stamina, notably Marjorie Daw, the incomparable, how many wonderful specimens scattered through the city are now but memories. And to think that Marjorie has no children, the writer has so far failed to get any seed but has not given up hope. The class of climbing Begonias is very limited.

Another wail has been about the tuberous not doing so well this year as last. In many cases this is due to poor care during the dormant period and even before. The tubers that are distributed through the trade are grown by specialists for the tuber, they are not stimulated to bloom nor is the blooming period prolonged. The result, tubers that are very much on the job the next season. These tubers are grown in the open ground, and when they come to market should be yet two years from their best. Those who know select a two year old tuber to grow exhibition plants. The care of the tubers during the winter differs from most bulbs as they must not be allowed to get quite dry, in fact judging by the way that the tuberous hanging type winter through all the rains in the lath-house in the baskets in which they have flowered, it seems possible that they should even be moist. It has been recommended in these articles to put them away in their pots turned on the side under a bench, but such a course is dangerous, for there is nothing in nature dryer than the soil in a pot once it dries out, and hidden away like this they are apt to be forgotten. Let us try putting them upright on a shelf in plain view and watering occas-

ionally right along, it is the temperature not the dryness that induces the dormant condition. When the tops come off these tubers, the latter are left in a very tender condition far from ripe and the skin is easily bruised so it is not safe to dig them up, nor should they be put away in the shade, a modicum of sun is necessary for proper maturing.

Now having said all this let me admit that I have had unusual trouble with my tuberous this year, they have been so uneven. Side by side under similar conditions they have been like the women grinding at the mill, one lived and the other died or rather damped off and later started a new growth. This spotted behavior was a kind of alibi for the soil and the water both of which have been under suspicion, and next year's mixture will contain at least half sand and it is to be hoped copious rains will slow up the pumps in Mission Valley, but the main trouble seems to have been the cool nights which hung around fifty till the end of June and then the protracted warm spell. The most successful treatment has been with pots set in shallow boxes margined with Helxine. A pot on a shelf is too hot for any Begonia in our summer, that is a dry shelf, and everywhere it is the practice to set the pots on sand which is kept moist.

The John Burnham Rexes at the last Show, and the display in the East end of the Pergola was all theirs, should be an inspiration to hosts of people and an encouragement to the millions who have said, "I cannot grow Rexes." Some day the Burnham place shall have an article all to itself, it is more than worthy, but now it is just desired to say that those Rexes with perfect leaves and big ones and lots of them on every plant were grown under an automatic sprinkler, one that just makes a mist, a moist atmosphere. Mrs. John is to be asked to write for this magazine on "How I Grow Rexes."

Small seedling Rexes have undoubtedly suffered from the water, with them nothing is safe but rain water and this all can have with a cistern. A suggestion was recently made that an effective cistern could be made with the large cement culvert pipes, it could be long and just under the ground doing away with difficult digging. A thousand gallons would raise a lot of seedlings.

The Begonias seem to think it will be an early Fall, the big ones are shedding leaves, the tuberous are sloughing their tops and seed pods are hanging on. It is curious that the summer blooming Begonias seldom make fertile seed till the end of the season. The Rexes, however, are growing finely. It should be remembered that these will grow throughout the year if the temperature is kept above fifty.

Just To Let You Know We Have Established A New Service.



Announcing a plan whereby you can secure your garden utilities by the sack, at very reasonable rates.

COW FERTILIZER, very fine screened, no adulterant, 75 cents per large sack delivered, or \$6.50 2 yard load.

LEAFMOULD, very spongy and heavy, sacks will weigh over 100 lbs., delivered at 75 cents per sack, or \$6.50 per load.

PLANT SOIL. A mixture of $\frac{1}{2}$ black top soil, $\frac{1}{4}$ leafmould and $\frac{1}{4}$ rotted cow fertilizer, this is ready for use and a large sack can be delivered for \$1 or a 2 yard load for \$8. This is the season to repot your ferns and house plants, a sack of this will go a long ways. We will mix the above to your own specifications at the same price.

COTTONSEED STEER FERTILIZER. "Weedless", best for new lawns, delivered at \$1 per sack, or \$6.50 per yard.

OUR BLACK TOP SOIL is taken from the surface of the ground, not from a pit. Yes, there may be a few weed seeds. We have yet to see any surface soil that is entirely free from weeds; if weeds won't grow in it your plants won't. This is delivered at \$5 per 2 yard load. Quantity orders are cheaper. We also handle **DECOMPOSED GRANITE**. This makes a very artistic garden walk, or driveway, is also used for lath house floors. The color is a deep, red-brown, and when once packed down is almost as hard as concrete. This is delivered anywhere in San Diego at \$5 per 2 yard load.

All "truck load" orders of the above will be delivered upon receipt of the order, but in order to deliver the sacks at the above prices we can make deliveries on **FRIDAYS** only. Phone in your order any time, but to insure delivery on Friday it must be in by Thursday night.

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Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

ROSES

From Now On Till Spring There Will Be Monthly Rose
Articles Locally Applicable.

ROSES

It is not too early to begin to think roses, the summer flowers have had a glorious colorful innings, which will continue for several weeks, but the thing our gardeners have yet to digest and use is that the vital season for blooms is months ahead of that blooming. Particularly is this the case in planting of rose bushes. Now is the time to get the ground ready, for there is an alchemy of nature that mixes and amalgamates as no shovel or sieve can do, there is a slow settling and cuddling together of earth particles that no tamper can duplicate, and a leavening of the whole with the essences that are plant food of which the prime factor is time.

Roses like a cool soil, that means that the base of our soil mixture should be adobe which is Californian for clay, but as our climate is too good for a real rose one and bakes clay, we must modify its tendency to make bricks. Straw manure, the fresher the better, and sand form good agents to do this, and a rose bed should be prepared at least two feet deep, three would be better, filling in layers of six inches adobe, three sand and three manure, the horse brand for roses, this must be wetted right through and left to settle for three weeks or so when it may be mixed all up wet again and allowed another three weeks, turned once more and then when settled planting can be done. This same process can be done with the ingredients in a pile, but then it will need more wetting, and the top must be kept basined for this purpose. A sprinkler running slowly is the best method. The summary of rose practice made by Dean Hole is still the best text for any sermon on the subject, "Roses like a warm head and cool feet".

As to where to plant. Of course most gardens have compelling circumstances that narrow choice, but a draughty spot such as a passage between buildings, a corner, close to a plastered wall in the direct sun or in complete shade, are all bad.

Authorities give as the ideal situation the middle of an open field, but most authorities write for other than our climatic conditions, and a position getting half shade and half sun, preferably in the morning, not too close to building or shrubbery seems to give us best results. However this is written merely in a very general sense for good roses are now and then to be found even in the tabooed locations.

Readers may say, Oh I have all the roses I want, my space is all occupied. If this is

not merely to cloak indifference or make a gesture, it is an error, for it cannot be that any garden has not either a superannuated or inferior variety. Roses are comparatively short lived, there comes a time when the annual renewal by removal of old wood is not possible because new growth is not there of sufficient vigor to take its place, and though bushes allowed to grow on and on do give masses of bloom the method for having good blooms remains as based on this heavy annual pruning. Roses bloom on new growth therefore the stimulation of that growth must be a first consideration. Go over your roses and mark those which have ceased to be or never were a joy, grub them now, excavate for a new bush, and treat the soil as above advised, but don't plant till you can get dormant stock.

In the selection of varieties the first thought must be, how do they like our conditions. Hundreds of new gardens are being planted in San Diego, their owners know roses elsewhere they may have had in their collection favorites that utterly refuse to enjoy our wonderful climate and curious soil so as a safe guide here are three standbys in different colors from Benards list as advertised in this magazine. Reds, General McArthur, Hadley and Red Radiance; Pinks, Rose Marie, Leon Paine and Caroline Testout; Yellows, Aaron Ward, Golden Emblem, Lady Hillingdon; Whites, Frau Karl Druschki, Kaiserin, Augusta Victoria, British Queen (?); Shaded Pinks, Los Angeles, Joseph Hill, Heriot; Shaded Yellows, W. F. Dreer, Ophelia and the Irish Fireflame series. Add to these the Polyantha roses Cecile Bruner, Perle D'or, etc., and pleasing quality in bloom is assured. Of course there are lots of others, several old ones like White Cochet and new ones like Souvenir de Claudius Pernet, but with these as a starter and the advice of a local nurseryman an intelligent selection should be possible.

Now finally the matter of stock, the best obtainable is never too good and the extra expense is small compared with results. The time to plant is as soon as dormant stock can be procured, the end of November is not too early for a good root development should precede top growth, and this is only obtainable by the use of dormant stock planted as early as possible. Roses can be planted by virtue (?) of the ubiquitous tin can all the year round, but it is not done by those who love roses intelligently.

THE MELODY OF THE GARDEN

William V. Beeler.

To the rather literally inclined, the human senses to which a garden appeals may seem but two, sight and scent. The flame of Oriental Poppies blazing in the sun, the intoxication of the Honeysuckle's breath in the June twilight are real and apparent. They and their kind are unescapable, but is theirs the greatest value merely because it is obvious to all? Is there not quite as much to be said for the subtleties of melody by which they are surrounded?

Of an August noonday, the garden music is drowsy, sun-steeped, perfect in its fitting of theme into theme. The rustle of a cicada lends its overtones to the melody of a thousand unseen, elfin players on grass blade, leaf, and twig. It ceases and in the hush a soloist takes the stage—a distant bell, swinging dreamily in the meadow at the hill's foot. Now faint, now clear, it weaves its melody as the heat waves rise and shimmer. A symphony of contentment, of lazy, carefree rest on a score sheet of warm light and luminous shadows.

How different is the allegro of a June morning, when the birds give thanks for a night of cool fragrance and a new day wherein good cheer shall wait on appetite, and song on both. East pales and flushes into the full gold of a young summer morn.

At such a time, one hears from the garden the most diversified chorus of the whole year's program. Scarcely a string or reed, known to the melody, but finds its counterpart in the notes that swell in a maze of intricate variety. A thousand singers with a hundred songs aid yet one catches no slightest discord or falsity.

August Garden

Con'd from Pge. 5

deeply; manure liberally; plant thinly; stake quickly; water freely; dispoed promptly."—George Stanton.

Grasses and bamboos can be reset this month. They require good, rich soil and will absorb all the water you can give them—remember they are great soil stealers and do not plant them near your choice garden subjects. Cineraria seeds should be sown now. Give them a good sandy soil, and shade until well up—if you had a planting of them last year and they were allowed to go to seed, in a short time around the old plants you will doubtless find hundreds of seedlings.

Anyone interested in narcissus should not fail to read August "Garden Magazine and Home Builder," the whole subject including the embargo is well treated, and Mr. Berry's article is especially helpful for this section.

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Especially in summer, when you spend a great deal of time outdoors—in the heat and dust—you need soap and hot water—not a cold bath.

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ASTERS

John G. Morley.

Asters are one of the most popular flowers in cultivation in our parks and gardens. There are over 150 known varieties of the perennial types distributed in many countries of the world. The majority, however, are natives of North America. Many of the varieties produce beautiful flowers and are more extensively planted in Europe, where many new and excellent types have been produced by hybridization. During my visit in 1924 many very fine varieties were exhibited at the flower shows in England, providing quite a contrast to America, where so many are native, and which are rarely seen at exhibitions. They are easily grown from seed and may be propagated by cuttings and division of the plants.

The annual varieties are those with which we are more familiar and their popularity as one of our finest garden flowers is enhanced by the continued improvement in the quality of the flowers and the continual introduction of new and better varieties.

Until about 25 years ago very few varieties produced stems long enough for cut flowers. They were very much utilized by florists for design work, in recent years, the tendency has been to produce varieties with long stems and large flowers, several of which are excellent for cutting and are grown in immense quantities for commercial and home use.

The original types are natives of China and were introduced into Europe about 1731 by a Jesuit missionary and since that time all the new varieties have been produced in Europe and America, and are divided into various types or classes: Flat rayed asters, quilled or tubular, incurved or ball shaped and spreading or reflexed and in the character of the plants upright, semi-upright, branching and spreading.

Prior to 1887 the varieties mostly grown were the Victoria, a beautiful variety in several colors and which is very popular today; Betteridges quilled, which produces a fine flower, the plant of scraggly habit; the Chrysanthemum flowered, Mignon, Bouquet, Queen of the market and Lilliputs were all very popular in former days.

In 1887 the original Comet asters were produced and for several years were the most popular, then followed, Vick's Branching and Semple's Giant Branching, which were the best for cutting for several years, although there was not as large a variety in colors. Then followed the Crego type, which seems to be a cross between the Comet and branching types, and are grown in immense quantities today, as they are very beautiful and fine for cutting, although the range of color

is not as great as in some other varieties. Of recent years the tendency has been to develop an aster with a long, clear stem with a large flower and as large a range of color as possible. From these efforts have come the American Beauty, non-lateral branching type which for the past few years have been very extensively grown, especially for florists' use. This variety very seldom has any side branches, the plant throws several leaders from the base which produce fine, large incurved flowers with stems from 18 to 30 inches long. This type, with the Crego, are the most popular of the commercial varieties today.

Asters thrive in any good soil, seeds may be sown in the open ground or in boxes and then transplanted into boxes about 30 inches square and 3 inches deep, filled with good soil, these boxes will hold 100 plants. After growing to the proper size they may be transplanted to the ground where they are to bloom. Asters need plenty of fertilizer and lots of water.

Seed may be sown from January to August. For continuous display of flowers sow the early flowering varieties first and commence with late varieties in March, sowing every thirty days for succession.

SEEDS TO SOW NOW

This is the time to sow your seeds for flowers the coming winter and spring. Many of us delay the planting of seeds until too late. A week of growth now is better than a month later on. The ground is now warm and with moisture the seeds germinate and make a good growth before the cold weather begins.

Many seeds planted later on will not germinate until the warmth of spring supplies sufficient heat. Also many seeds that will not grow well in summer months will do well now with our longer and cooler nights, and the warm days that supply heat to the ground.

This is the time to plant your sweet peas for winter blooming. Stocks planted now will germinate in a very few days and bloom continuously for several months. Snapdragons should be planted—both the dwarf and the tall. Try intermingling the two varieties in various shades. The results are artistic and very satisfactory. Cinerarias for the north exposures or shaded spots beneath palms or shrubs may be started and will bloom for a long period. Marigolds, though a little late, are still seasonable. Penstemons may be planted. Try raising them from cuttings. Plant slips from your favorite colors and varieties. Gallardias will also grow well from

cuttings taken now. It is also time to plant the seed. *Correopsis* and *Calendulas* may be planted. Try some *salpiglossis* and *schizanthus*. Both are very satisfactory flowers growing under almost any condition and when planted in massed effects or even in pots are attractive and much admired.

The *Nemesia* for a bedding effect should be tried and should be planted more. The *Clarkia*, one of our California flowers, is also coming into more and more favor. Now is the time to get ready for your wild flower patch. Have your ground prepared in some spot which you do not water, plant your seed and let it have the benefit of the first rains. Then if the rains do not come as frequently as required, help the flowers along by irrigating.

LIFE IN THE ARCTIC CIRCLE

In the following dispatch, transmitted to the National Geographic Society, from the MacMillan Arctic expedition by radio, Dr. Walter N. Koelz, chief naturalist of the expedition, tells for the first time of strange forms of life the explorers have found in the far north.

By Dr. Walter N. Koelz.

We had ample opportunity for hard work at Etah (Greenland) and collected there many fine specimens of bird and animal life which we are sure will be of great interest to the National Geographic Society.

At Etah, the water was cloudy with jellyfish of a diaphanous gray, but just before we left there appeared many winged snails. These curious creatures floated through the water, propelling themselves as they go.

One of the interesting aquatic animals is the liparis, which resembles the bullhead, but has modified its ventral fins into a powerful sucker by means of which it attaches itself to the rocks. The suction is so great that considerable effort is required to dislodge it.

There has been collected a good series of Greenland red poll in juvenile plumage. This species is scantily represented in most of the museums of the United States, and birds taken in summer are very rare in American collections.

A series of purple sandpipers have also been obtained in their first juvenile plumage, which is unknown to most ornithologists.

The region around Etah has special attractions for a botanist. Some 50 specimens of flowering plants can be found in bloom in a few minutes' walk. Poppies, pinks, dandelions, daisies and buttercups can be gathered beside the glaciers that touch the ocean's edge. In places the Kentucky bluegrass forms a thick carpet, though in general the plants do not grow tall, the willow bushes be-

ing only one or two inches high in favored situations.

Timothy grows so luxuriantly that an American farmer would be delighted at the fine prospect of a hay crop.

Besides the larger plants there are the lichens, which are the most conspicuous plant growths of all. They clothe the cliffs completely, up to a height of 2000 feet, in brilliant hues of orange and purple which, in mosaic with green patches of grass and spots where blackbirds have kept the rocks bare, produces a spectacle of color rivaling that of the bad lands.

The species of animals are fewer in number and, with the exception of the dovebies, or little auks, the number of individuals is also relatively small. The dovebies, or bullbirds, are present in swarms of incredible magnitude. Their cries resemble the laughter of a maniac and the combined effect of the thousands of voices of a colony has been bewildering, after airplanes stirred them up as they perch above their nests, an arm's length deep amid huge rocks.

THE GARDEN

(From Page 5)

hours before planting. *Anemones* and *Ranunculus* both prefer light, rich soils and sunny locations, both plants give a wonderful range of color in their blooms and live up the garden from late winter to early summer.

Spanish Iris bulbs can also go in. Plant in sunny location three to four inches deep and six inches apart. These flowers are very popular for florists work and last a long time in water.

Amaryllis bulbs should be planted in a sunny location, the bulbs are large and should be planted leaving the neck even with the surface of the ground. Be sure to have soil well irrigated and worked to a good depth before setting out bulbs, and do not allow ground to become dry but keep up a uniform moisture.

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